

Appendix: Recommendations

Everyone has favorites – here are some of mine.

Movies

Get Low (2009) Robert Duvall, Bill Murray, Sissy Spacek. I love period pieces and I love dark comedy. This nails it, plus fantastic cinematography and dark secrets.

Pulp Fiction (2002?) Samuel L. Jackson, John Travolta, Ving Rhymes?, Die Hard. The scene of deliverance with Samuel L. Jackson's biblical quotation rings forever in my head. The cutting and placing of the six or so scenes is beautifully done. I didn't need the 'holiest of holies' and Quentin Tarantino is no actor, but what fun, clever story telling!

Casablanca (1939) Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Peter Lorrie, Best Friend? Yes, Black & White will live forever and here tells a story within a story.

The Fault in Our Stars (year) Augustus Waters. Some of the clever dialog – again, the black humor I love. Carries off the combination of grim reality versus the human spirit. We are all experiments in evolution. The book by John Green is almost word for word in the movie.

Books – non-fiction

Endurance (year, pages) by Alfred Lansing. Gripping story of survival of Shackleton's ill-fated exploration of Antarctica.

Infidel (year, pages) by Erin Ali Hirshi. Born in Somalia, learning English in Kenya, emigration to ah, Denmark?

God is Not Great (year, pages) by Christopher Hitchens. Oh, my hero! A true contrarian! Perhaps Doug was in this mold. Just read the chapters on those religions that are not your own and you will feel energized. "Religion ruins everything" with detailed proofs.

Books – fiction